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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Impostors Theatre Company to stage the Chicago premiere of
Tippy: Stories from the River

Written by ensemble member Kayla Belec
Directed by Artistic Director Stefan Roseen

CHICAGO, IL — The Impostors Theatre Company (ITC) returns this October for their second season with the Chicago premiere of *Tippy: Stories from the River*, by ITC ensemble member **Kayla Belec** and directed by ITC Artistic Director **Stefan Roseen**. *Tippy: Stories from the River* runs **October 18 – November 2, 2019** at **The Pentagon Theatre at Collaboraction Studios in the Flat Iron Arts Building, 1579 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60622**. Press are welcomed to join us any time from Friday, October 18 until closing.

“Night after night, the Fisherman can be seen traveling up and down the Tippecanoe River, searching for the one he loved and lost, a woman called Tippy,” Kirk tells his young niece and nephew one fateful summer, like he’s done every summer for as long as they can remember. Now grown, Ella and her family — her brother Terrence, her mother Lori, her father Brady, and her aunt Joan — reflect back on the stories Kirk told and the ones they’ve told themselves. As Kirk’s tales flood over the line that separates fable and reality, Ella and her loved ones reconcile with the past, the present, and the unknown.

Stepping into the shoes of characters from Kirk’s lore and the surrounding riverside community, the family breathes life into fiction, coloring the nuances of their inner lives in broad strokes. Throughout their storytelling, the elusive Tippy slips just out of reach.

Fed by dozens of natural lakes, the Tippecanoe River is known as “the river of lakes.” Our favorite stories are fueled by our fears. *Tippy: Stories from the River* is a story nurtured by both.

The cast of *Tippy: Stories from the River* includes ITC ensemble member **Keaton Stewart** in the lead role of Ella/Perry, and **Dominick Alesia** in the lead role of Kirk/Ranger Rick. They are joined by **RJ Cecott** as Terrence/Jonsi, **Julia Germeroth** as Lana/Lori/Stan, **Nick Strauss** as Brady/Reggie/Owen, ITC ensemble member **Stephanie Lewis** as Joan/The Crone, **Sarah Glasgow** as Tippy, and **Matthew Smith** as Gale the Fisherman.

Following *Tippy: Stories from the River*, The Impostors Theatre Company’s second season encompasses ***Summer & Smoke*** by **Tennessee Williams** and reimagined by The Impostors, running from **March 13–28, 2020**; and ***Footholds 2020***, an anthology play by the community, running from **June 18–27, 2020**. All season two productions will be hosted at **The Pentagon Theatre at Collaboraction Studios in the Flat Iron Arts Building**.

About the Artists

Kayla Belec (Playwright) is a writer and content creator from the Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana area. She serves as archivist for The Impostors Theatre Company by composing original content for the website, monthly newsletters, and more. Kayla maintains a blog *Sincerely, From the Footnotes* where she chronicles the company's milestones. Kayla's work has been published on GreatNews.Life (where she serves as contributing editor), NWI Times, and the award-winning literary journal, *The Lighter*. She is very humbled and excited for The Impostors to breathe life into *Tippy: Stories from the River*.

Stefan Roseen (Director) is a Chicago director, playwright, and designer. He serves as the artistic director for The Impostors Theatre Company. Stefan most recently worked with The Impostors in June as production director for the anthology series *Footholds 2019*, where he also served as director for two of the short plays *Agita* and *The Piper's Calling*. Additional directing credits include: *Caged: An Allegory*; *The Wood*; *The Terrible Tragedy of Peter Pan*; *Art*; and *The Altercation in the Underworld* — Winner "Best Of" for MadKap Production's Short Play Festival. Stefan earned his degree in theatre and studio art from Valparaiso University where he has returned to direct. He has also led multiple workshops and directed numerous staged readings including *Tippy: Tales from the River* this past May. Stefan's more recent theatrical designs include sets for *25/25*, *Occidental Express*; the Jeff-recommended *They*; and the Jeff-nominated *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* — all for Trap Door Theatre.

Fact Sheet | *Tippy: Stories from the River*

Title:	<i>Tippy: Stories from the River</i>
Written by:	ITC ensemble member Kayla Belec
Directed by:	ITC Artistic Director Stefan Roseen
Featuring:	ITC ensemble member Keaton Stewart (Ella/Perry), as well as Dominick Alesia (Kirk/Ranger Rick), RJ Cecott (Terrence/Jonsi), Julia Germeroth (Lana/Lori/Stan), Nick Strauss (Brady/Reggie/Owen), ITC ensemble member Stephanie Lewis (Joan/The Crone), Sarah Glasgow (Tippy), and Matthew Smith (Gale the Fisherman)
Creative Team:	ITC ensemble members Becky Valek (Stage Manager), Mallory Swisher (Lighting Design), Rachel Borgo (Dramaturg), as well as Ethan Gasbarro (Set Design)
Opening Night:	Friday, October 18, 2019 at 7:30pm
Regular Run:	October 18 – November 2, 2019
Schedule:	Thursdays – Saturdays at 7:30pm Sundays at 3pm
Location:	The Pentagon Theatre at Collaboraction Studios in the Flat Iron Arts Building 1579 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60622
Tickets:	General Admission – \$15 Reserved Seating – \$20 (more information at impostorstheatre.boxoffice@gmail.com)

Group Discount: Purchase 6 or more tickets to receive a \$5 discount off of each ticket. Contact the Box Office at impostorstheatre.boxoffice@gmail.com for more details and to book your event.

Box Office: theimpostorstheatre.com/boxoffice.html

Press Photos for *Tippy: Stories from the River* will be available October 18, 2019.

Parking and Transportation: The Flat Iron Arts Building is located in Wicker Park. West of the Damen/North/Milwaukee intersection, patrons can locate a parking garage on the northern side of North Avenue and a parking lot on the southern. There is limited street parking available. Apps like Spot Hero are highly recommended to ensure a parking spot. The theater is easily accessible via the Damen (#50), Milwaukee (#56), or North (#72) bus, and just steps off of the Damen Blue Line El station.

About The Impostors Theater Company

The Impostors Theatre Company is one of Chicago's newest ensembles. The Company stages stories at the crossroads of retrospect and innovation, where the fantastic collides with the everyday. In order to better our discourse, our relationships, and ourselves. A commitment to challenge, cultivate, and coalesce drives the company forward, encouraging all to "Embrace the Art of Pretend."

Returning for their second season, The Impostors have crafted a new series of productions that draw from both old and new, elemental and synthetic, human and otherworldly.

The Impostors Theatre Company is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a 501(c)3 non-profit arts service organization.

For more information about The Impostors Theatre Company, we invite you to visit theimpostorstheatre.com
Follow ITC on at facebook.com/theimpostorstheatre and on instagram.com/impostorstheatre.